Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 29, 2026

The Honorable Marco Rubio
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Rubio:

We write to request an immediate accounting of the Department of State's role, if any, in facilitating the reported departure of Brazilian Senator Flávio Bolsonaro from Brazil and his entry into the United States following a Brazilian Supreme Court order restricting his international travel. According to reporting[1] on October 27, 2026, Senator Bolsonaro reportedly left Brazil for the United States after losing Brazil's presidential election and failing to comply with a judicial order requiring him to surrender his passports. The reported order was issued in connection with a criminal investigation involving the Senator in alleged money laundering and related financial misconduct. Of particular concern, reporting indicates that a senior State Department official stated that the United States would issue visas to Senator Bolsonaro and members of his family and allow them to enter the country[2]. Other reporting has raised questions about whether U.S. officials were aware of, or involved in, arrangements for his departure[3].

These developments raise significant questions about the Department's decision-making, its awareness of the Brazilian court's order, and whether any U.S. government personnel provided assistance before or after that order was issued. The central question is straightforward: did the Department of State, the U.S. Embassy in Brazil, or any other U.S. government agency assist Senator Bolsonaro in traveling to or entering the United States despite the reported Brazilian judicial restriction on his departure? If such assistance occurred, Congress must understand what was provided, who authorized it, when it occurred, and what information was available to U.S. officials at the time. Accordingly, we request written responses to the following questions:

- When did the Department of State, the U.S. Embassy in Brasília, or any other U.S. diplomatic mission first learn that the Brazilian Supreme Court had ordered Senator Bolsonaro to surrender his passports and restricted his ability to leave Brazil?

[1] Flávio Bolsonaro Leaves Brazil for the U.S. After Election Defeat - The New York Times
[2] Trump administration grants Flávio Bolsonaro visa after election loss
[3] Flávio Bolsonaro lands in Miami, declares himself Brazil's true 'leader' - The Washington Post

- Did any U.S. government official receive, review, or discuss a copy of the court order before Senator Bolsonaro reportedly departed Brazil?
- Before authorizing or facilitating any visa or travel arrangements, did the State Department determine whether Senator Bolsonaro was legally permitted to leave Brazil?
- Was the State Department aware that Senator Bolsonaro reportedly failed to comply with the court-imposed deadline to surrender his passports? If so, when did the Department learn of that noncompliance, and what actions, if any, followed?
- Has the State Department issued, approved, expedited, renewed, or otherwise facilitated a visa for Senator Bolsonaro or any member of his family during this election period?
- A senior State Department official was reportedly quoted as saying that the Department would issue visas to Senator Bolsonaro and his family and allow them to enter the United States. Who authorized this decision?
- Were visas approved or other immigration-related arrangements made before the State Department became aware of the Brazilian court order? If so, did the Department reconsider, pause, or review those arrangements after learning of the order?
- Did any State Department employee, U.S. Embassy official, White House official, or other U.S. government representative communicate directly or indirectly with Senator Bolsonaro, his family, attorneys, political advisers, or intermediaries regarding travel to the United States?
- Did any U.S. government official assist with flight arrangements, travel documentation, transportation, airport access, consular appointments, entry planning, or other logistical arrangements connected to Senator Bolsonaro's reported departure or arrival?
- Did the State Department coordinate with the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, or any other federal agency regarding Senator Bolsonaro's anticipated arrival? If so, please describe the nature and timing of that coordination.
- Did the State Department consult with the Department of Justice or any other federal agency concerning the implications of facilitating entry for a foreign political figure who reportedly departed his country in violation of a court order?
- Did the State Department consider the potential diplomatic consequences for U.S.-Brazil relations, including the possibility that assistance to Senator Bolsonaro could be perceived as interference in Brazil's judicial proceedings or domestic political affairs?
- Did the State Department receive any request from Brazilian authorities concerning Senator Bolsonaro's location, travel status, or possible entry into the United States? If so, how did the Department respond?
- What was the legal basis for issuing or approving visas for Senator Bolsonaro and his family? What visa classifications and eligibility criteria were considered, and did the Department assess the ongoing criminal investigations involving Senator Bolsonaro when making this decision?

- Did any U.S. government official located in Argentina or Ecuador coordinate with Senator Bolsonaro on his travel itinerary?

Given the significant questions raised by these reports, we request a written response to the foregoing questions by November 13, 2026. We also request that the Department make appropriate officials available for a congressional staff briefing within that period.

The American people and Congress have a legitimate oversight interest in understanding whether U.S. diplomatic and immigration resources were used to facilitate the travel of a foreign political figure under these circumstances. Transparency is particularly important where the reported events implicate a foreign judicial proceeding, sensitive bilateral relations, and the consistent application of U.S. immigration and diplomatic policies.

We look forward to your prompt and complete response.

Sincerely,

Sydney Kamlager-Dove
Member of Congress

Dina Titus
Member of Congress

Greg Casar
Member of Congress

Glenn F. Ivey
Member of Congress

Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress

Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Adelita S. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

Greg Stanton
Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress

Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Lois Frankel
Member of Congress

Sean Casten
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress

Gabe Amo
Member of Congress

Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress

Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress